

Qualifications for director of Smith County water district
(HB 3155 by D. Hudson/Lyon)

DIGEST: HB 3155 would have required candidates for director of the Smith County Water Control and Improvement District No. 1 (Owentown) to be residents of the district, own taxable land in the district, be at least 21 years old and not have been convicted of a felony.

GOVERNOR'S
REASON

FOR VETO: The qualifications proposed in HB 3155 are inappropriate. They are inconsistent with those imposed on directors of any other water districts in the state, and there is no compelling reason to justify them in this instance.

RESPONSE: Rep. David Hudson, the author of HB 3155, asked the the governor to veto HB 3155. Some concerns arose during the legislative session that indicated a need for a closer review of the issue. One such concern was a way to allow input from the University of Texas Health Center at Tyler, the largest user of water in the area.

NOTES: HB 3155 passed the House on the Consent Calendar and was not analyzed in the Daily Floor Report.